



"Opportunity dances with those already on the dance floor." – H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

For those of you that are long-time readers of this newsletter, you can attest that I will bring up, at some point, Cosumnes flooding, the Delta tunnel, APOT and my gratitude for the trust you have placed in me. Well, this edition is no different. So many of you tell me 1) that you read this newsletter, 2) that you enjoy this newsletter and 3) you thank me for being willing to work so hard on your behalf. I've said it before and I'll say it again: I am honored to have the opportunity.

Last month, we held a public safety town hall in the Rosemont community. Following it, one of the attendees sent her own note of gratitude for what she knew was immediate action as a result of what was brought up in the meeting the night before. I'm not sure I've ever been so moved by feedback provided from a constituent: "For the very first time in all of my life, I might finally have some faith and trust in officials such as yourself, Pat." Whew. That comment is enough to steel my resolve from a whole slew of slings and arrows.



I've just returned from a whirlwind trip to Washington DC, leading a delegation from the Delta Counties Coalition. We met with agency staff, congressional members and their staff, and a meeting with the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. Given that the new Federal Administration has signaled a desire to lean in on California water policy, we felt it was good to get in early to promote the forward thinking, less costly and more achievable alternatives than the Delta Conveyance Project. All in all, it was a very

productive two days and we came away with tangible deliverables that we can work on to better position ourselves with our Federal partners.

Bonus: purely by happenstance we happened be there during peak cherry blossom at the Tidal Basin.

I began with gratitude and I'll conclude with gratitude – allow me to introduce you to the rockstar team that holds it down so I am freed up to battle it out in the trenches. From handling constituent relations, prepping me with materials and making sure I know where I'm supposed to be, this amazing group of women get it done day in and day out. Stephanie, in the flower top



handles everything from Elk Grove to the Delta, Rebecca, trying to hide in the background, is my Chief of Staff and policy sounding board, Carolyn, with her hands clasped, handles all of my scheduling and meeting material and Ashleigh handles everything from Rosemont to the County line to the East.

Hope you have a wonderful April and as always, please share this newsletter with a friend or neighbor and encourage them to <u>subscribe</u> for future newsletters or check out my Facebook page <u>here</u>.

PAT

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In the April Issue:

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Homelessness Response Update

On March 25, my colleagues and I received the latest biannual homelessness update from the County Departments of Homeless Services and Housing (DHSH) and Health Services (DHS) at our Board of Supervisors hearing. This report gave a

detailed look at the County's outreach efforts, shelter operations and mental health services from July 1 to December 31, 2024.

As the primary entity responsible for homeless outreach in the unincorporated areas and the entire American River Parkway, the County has implemented strategic initiatives to connect people living outside with critical resources and housing solutions.

The County's outreach teams, which include 10 parkway staff, 10 encampment services staff and six community-based outreach staff, meet these folks where they are and provide ongoing engagement and assistance as they work toward stable housing options.

During the six-month reporting period, the County's outreach teams delivered 25,274 services to 810 unique individuals, including case management, housing search assistance, vital document retrieval, transportation support and behavioral health referrals.



One of the biggest and most critical priorities in the County's strategy is helping individuals transition from shelters into housing. During the last six months of 2024, our teams helped 1,137 unique households find shelter through County-funded programs, including 1,070 single-adult households and 67 families. To ensure progress, participants are reassessed every

90 days to confirm they are actively engaged in housing programs.

Beyond housing, we know that many individuals experiencing homelessness also struggle with mental, physical, behavioral and/or developmental health challenges. Sacramento County has continued its investment in Full-Service Partnership (FSP) programs, providing recovery-oriented treatment services for those living unhoused with severe mental illness, many of whom have experienced repeat hospitalizations or been involved in the criminal justice system. These programs address individual needs, improving outcomes, reducing costs and ultimately,

saving lives. More information on the County's homelessness response, including data from the shelters and a link to the DHSH <u>data dashboard</u> can be found <u>here</u>.

The dramatic increase in homelessness emphasized the urgent need for stronger collaboration between the County, the City of Sacramento and key community service partners to develop long-term solutions. In response, regional efforts to expand homeless outreach and housing support have significantly increased. The impact of these initiatives is evident in the 2024 Point-In-Time Count, which reported a 41% reduction in unsheltered homelessness, meaning fewer people living on the streets, and an overall 29% decline in total



homelessness since 2022, marking Sacramento County as the most improved PIT count in the State of California.

While these numbers demonstrate meaningful progress, there is still more work to be done. My colleagues and I are also committed to tackling one of the root causes of homelessness, the lack of housing supply. The County's Planning and Building Departments are working to streamline the development process in our unincorporated areas, allowing for the faster construction of much-needed housing to meet growing demand.

There is no easy, single solution to ending homelessness. It demands a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach. I remain dedicated to serving the people of Sacramento County by reducing the impacts of encampments on businesses and neighborhoods, supporting homelessness initiatives that help connect individuals to critical services and transition folks off the streets, and holding our public agencies and partners accountable for these public investments to help improve the quality of life in all our communities.

I look forward to additional discussions planned for later this spring, where the Board will further evaluate existing housing initiatives, identify areas for

improvement, explore new strategies to enhance services and strengthen collaboration with our partner cities.

Sacramento County Celebrates Earth Month

Earth Day is every day in April! Over the month of April, we have the opportunity to welcome spring with a variety of activities, raising awareness about environmental issues and taking action toward ensuring a sustainable future. From water resiliency to renewable energy, this year's theme, *Our Power, Our Planet*, serves as a reminder of the challenges our planet faces and our collective responsibility to protect it.

This month can also serve as a reminder to all of us that there is no replacement for fresh air and getting outdoors (I too am guilty of spending too much time sitting in front of my computer or attached to my smartphone). As Sacramento County gears up for Earth Month, I'm pleased to help highlight our County's dedication to environmental stewardship.



From sustainability efforts at Sacramento International Airport to the Rosemont Community Association's first ever Earth Day Party, to cleanup efforts along the 23-mile gem of the American River Parkway, everyone can find a way to celebrate and protect our natural environment . . . air, land and water. Learn more about how Sacramento County is investing in our planet here.

A great example of the County's commitment to environmental stewardship is the Sacramento Area Sewer District's (SacSewer) Bufferlands, a 2,150 acre open space in south Sacramento County that serves as a natural buffer between the EchoWater Facility and the community. This space was specifically designed to help reduce the potential for odor and noise from the sewer treatment plant and is

also a habitat preserve reflecting over 30 years of restoration and management for wildlife to thrive.

Each year, SacSewer Bufferlands hosts public tours and exciting events, including Walk on the Wildside, an annual celebration with wildlife demonstrations, hikes, music and opportunities to engage with local wildlife. For more information about Walk on the Wildside, please visit their website here.



Another County project I'm sure many of you are familiar with is the Harvest Water Program, California's largest-ever agricultural water recycling project aimed at delivering recycled water to agricultural lands and habitats in southern Sacramento County. This water has been treated biologically, mechanically, and chemically to meet the stringent requirements for discharge and reuse. While it is not recommended to drink it directly, it is completely safe for crops and livestock. When complete, the program will provide up to 50,000 acre-feet (approximately 16 billion gallons) of drought-resistant, recycled water annually. A few of the key goals of this impactful project include:

- **Groundwater Restoration:** By supplying recycled water for irrigation instead of groundwater, Harvest Water aims to promote natural groundwater recovery and increase regional and state water reliability.
- Sustainable Agriculture: The program supports sustainable farming practices by delivering up to 50,000 acre-feet per year of recycled water to irrigate up to 16,000 acres of agricultural lands.
- Habitat Enhancement: Delivering recycled water to existing habitats is expected to strengthen local ecosystems and benefit wildlife while improving groundwater conditions that sustain local riparian and wetland areas.



Last month, Harvest Water was awarded an additional \$73 million in funding from the California Water Commission as part of the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP). Grant funding for the project now exceeds \$394 million, further solidifying Harvest Water's status as a cornerstone of sustainable water management in California.

With significant construction occurring in the area south of Elk Grove, SacSewer is reaching out to residents regarding road closures and construction impacts through multiple methods and channels. The inconvenience is real but so are the benefits the Harvest Water pipeline project will provide including the scheduled road improvements once the pipeline is constructed. You can sign up for construction updates at www.SacHarvestWater.org. Questions, comments and concerns may be directed to the Harvest Water team by calling (916) 876-3322 or emailing HarvestWater@sacsewer.com.

As we celebrate Earth Day every day in April, I encourage all of us to reflect on how we can continue to contribute to the restoration and protection of our planet. Even small steps can count and when multiplied across our County, these efforts can have a profound and lasting impact on this area we call home.

Out & About in District 5



Cordova Recreation & Park District Executive Director Patrick Larkin and me at the Neil Orchard Senior Center's St. Patrick's Day celebration.



Top photo: me and Cordova Girls Fast Pitch President Rod Borba. The parade of teams and the U.S. Navy Honor Guard in tribute of the league's 60th Anniversary.









Top left photo: California Capital Airshow fun with CHP Valley Division recruitment officers Nicole Ross, Matthew Peacock, me and Public Information Officer Trent Senter. Top right photo: Michael Smith, Kimberly Koley, Justino Santana Jr. and me at the Airshow Reception with the Blue Angels. Bottom left photo: me with Sacramento Airports K9 Search Dog Ridge. Bottom right photo: Tenley Ong, Marc Houston, Jeneae Own with Skyrise Aviation and me.





Left photo: "Voices: Chinese Women of the Delta" Director Min Zhou and me. Right photo: Honey Lum, myself and Lisa Hume along with members of the Locke Foundation and the Locke Prior Residents & Descendants Association at the California History Museum.





Singing with Councilmember David Sander and Doug Brewer at the Rancho Cordova Community Volunteer Awards Celebration.



Ed Perez from RD 1000, SCIFA President Suying Plaskett, me, SCIFA Vice President Linda Lui, Elk Grove Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen, Mary Yin, APAPA founder CC Yin and Elk Grove City Councilman Darren Suen at the installation and launch of the 2025 APAPA Elk Grove Chapter Board.



Photo: Niraj Dhanani, Mayor Siri Pulipati and members of BAPS Charities at the Kite Festival in Mather.

Upcoming Events























APRIL 26, 2025 - 10AM-5PM elkgrovefineartscenter.org

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SHRED DAY

SCFB Members

1st box free, \$5 per additional box suggested minimum

Non Members \$10 per box CASH ONLY

WHEN & WHERE

April 28th 8:30am - 11:30am

Back Parking Lot of Sacramento County Farm Bureau Office 8970 Elk Grove Blvd. Elk Grove, CA 95624

LIMITED SPACE

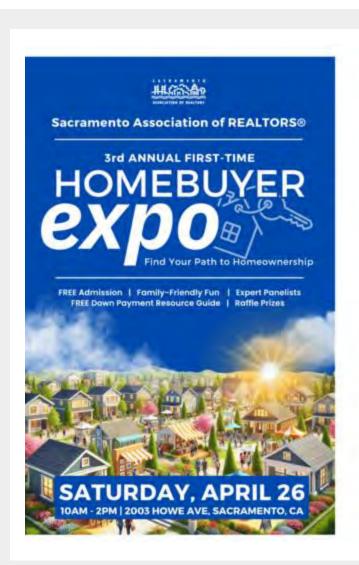
RSVP By April 23rd

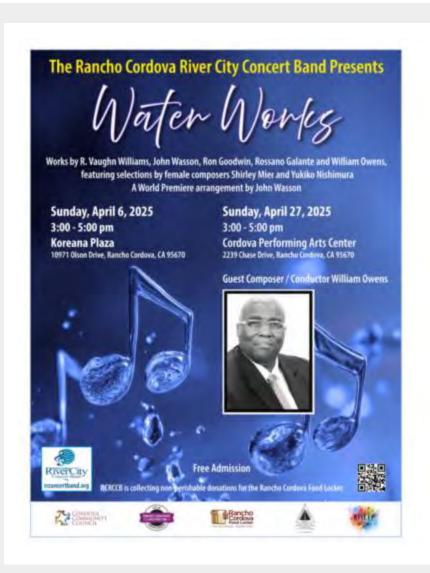
At www.sacfarmbureau.org/shred or call (916)685 - 6958 with membership name or number & # of boxes

IMPORTANT

No boxes larger then a banker box. No boxes left onsite & No binder clips

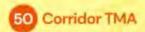












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Contact Us 916.234.6176 Team@50corridor.com



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